mission on 11.8.78 for Rs. 188.44 lakhs. This project was examined and comments sent to the State Govt. The State representative has stated in the Quarterly Review Meeting on 7.10.96 that the compliance to the CWC observations would be sent shortly.

6. **Vartu-II Irrigation: Cost 30.38 Crore:**

The modified report which was received in June 1994 was examined and comments on them was sent the State Govt. on October 1995. The State Govt. was requested to furnish the compliance of CWC observations.

7. **Nanibarsan W.R. Project: Cost Rs. 32.40 Crore:**

The scheme was received in November 1994 and comments of the CWC was sent to the State Govt. in October 1995. Compliance of the observations made by CWC are awaited from the State.

8. **Bakrol W.R. Project: Cost Rs. 23.86 Crore:**

The scheme was received in January 1995. The report was examined and comments was sent to the State Govt. in June 1995. Compliance on CWC comments was received. However, the State has been asked for more information.

9. **Integrated Watershed Development Project—Extension of Ongoing Project: Cost Rs. 32.86 Crore:**

The World Bank Funded Integrated Watershed Development Project is being implemented in four districts viz., Sabarkantha, Rajkot, Baroda and Bharuch, since February 1991 and due to close on 31.3.98. The Second proposal involving extension of the project by one year is being examined by the Ministry of Agriculture. The view of Agriculture Ministry would be sent to Department of Economic Affairs shortly.

10. **Integrated Watershed Development for Rural Poverty Alleviation: Cost Re. 85 Crore:**

A project for Integrated Watershed Development for Rural Poverty Alleviation in Tribal areas of Panchmahal and Sabarkantha districts of Gujarat has been submitted by the State. The project has been examined and comments of Agriculture Ministry was sent to the State with a request to send a revised proposal. The same is awaited from the State Govt.

11. **Comprehensive Agricultural Development Project (Naep-Phase-II) World Bank Aided project: Cost Rs. 46.08 Crore:**

Govt. of Gujarat proposal dated 2.7.97 has been received by the Agriculture Ministry on 16.7.97 and would be examined for necessary action.

[English]

Chief Ministers Conference

203. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Chief Minister's Conference was held in New Delhi on 24th May, 1997 to consider an Action Plan for effective and responsive Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the subjects' discussed therein and the decisions arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) to (c) A Conference of Chief Ministers of States/UTs was held on 24th May, 1997 under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister to discuss an Action Plan for Effective and Responsive Government. The Action Plan dealt with three themes namely, accountable and citizen-friendly Government, transparency and Right to Information, and improving the performance and integrity of the public services. The issues that were discussed under these themes and which are being followed-up at Central and State levels are:

(a) Citizens' Charter and accountable administration;

(b) Effective and speedy public grievance redressal system;

(c) Empowering elected local bodies and decentralised delivery of services;

(d) Review of laws, regulations and procedures;

(e) Transparency and Right to Information;

(f) Access of the public to Information from public offices and facilitation counters;

(g) Code of Ethics for public services;

(h) Tackling corruption and cleansing the administration; and

(i) Stability of tenure and a scheme for Civil Service Boards.

2. It was agreed that each State would work for implementation of the Action Plan, making appropriate allowance for variation in local circumstances.

3. Government has set up a Committee under the Cabinet Secretary including some Chief Secretaries representing different regions of the country as well as some senior officials of Government of India in order to elaborate different elements of the Action Plan and work out various decisions required at Central and State levels.